

DARE

to

dream

**THE HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION
OF NEW JERSEY**

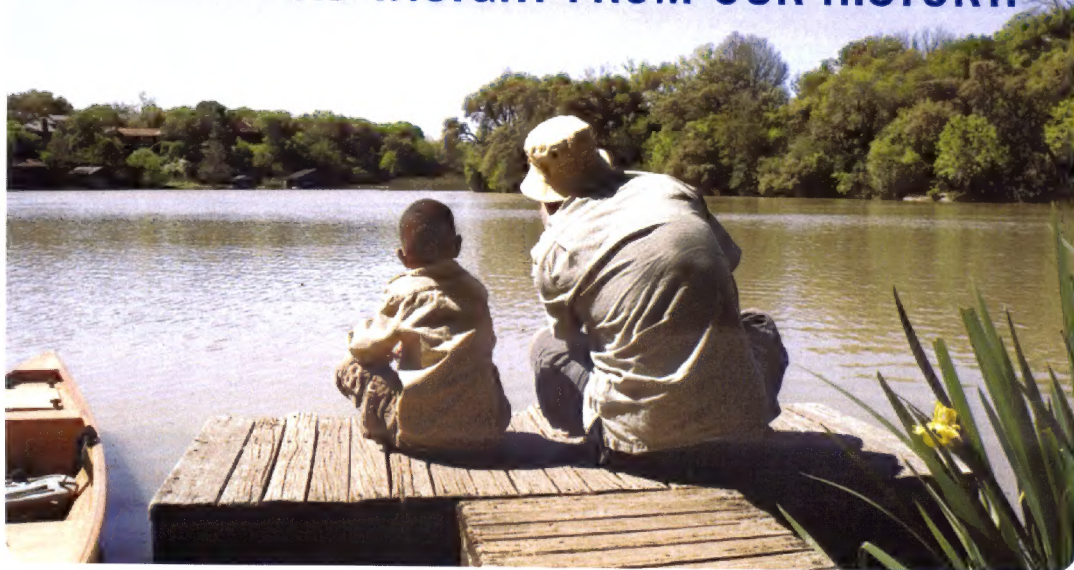
**29TH ANNUAL
SCHOLARSHIP GALA AND AWARDS DINNER**

**SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2010
HYATT REGENCY JERSEY CITY**



"The Voice of New Jersey's Hispanic Legal Community since 1980."

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OUR PAST, STABILITY FROM OUR CULTURE
AND INSIGHT FROM OUR HISTORY.



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We share the **SAME DREAMS.**



As a community, it's our job to support the dream of education for all.
State Farm® encourages you to keep this dream alive.

State Farm salutes both the
Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey and the
2010 scholarship recipients for academic achievement.

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Message from the President



Dear members, colleagues, supporters, and distinguished guests:

It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you to the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey's ("HBANJ") 29th Annual Scholarship Gala and Dinner Dance.

We are very excited about this evening and about the HBANJ's bright future. Thanks to all of you, the HBANJ is stronger, more visible, and more vibrant than ever before. We have made great strides over the last 30 years, fueled in no small part, by your support. Thanks to sound leadership, vision, and strategic planning, we are all reaping the benefits of the hard work and labor of the many trailblazers that came before us; we are living examples of what can happen when you "Dare to Dream."

This evening is historic for many reasons. First, we celebrate our 30th year of existence. To commemorate this significant milestone we have created a video entitled, "In re: The Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey," which chronicles the HBANJ's trajectory from its humble beginnings in 1980 to its current place in the New Jersey legal community.

Second, to further celebrate and mark this historic milestone this evening we unveil two special awards. The "Margarita Echevarria Trailblazer Award," named after our first president, will pay tribute to the courage of our founding president. Going forward the award will recognize the everyday heroes and pioneers among us, individuals who daily light new paths, blaze new trails, and break through glass ceilings. With their efforts, these individuals advance the cause of Hispanic lawyers and the Hispanic community.

The "Corporate Law Department of the Year Award," will recognize a corporate law department or other institution that is a leader in its field, a model corporate citizen, a champion for diversity and inclusion, and an advocate for a better New Jersey. This year we are proud to present this award to Prudential Financial, with special thanks to *Susan Blount*, Senior Vice President and General Counsel and *John D. Rosero*, Vice President and Corporate Counsel.

Third, we recognize and honor three truly remarkable members of our community. This year's honorees are the *Honorable Camelia Valdes*, the Passaic County Prosecutor, the first Latina County Prosecutor in the history of the State of New Jersey and past president of the HBANJ; the *Honorable Wilda Diaz*, Mayor of the City of Perth Amboy, the first Latina mayor in the City of Perth Amboy and in Middlesex County; and *Professor Solangel Maldonado*, Law Professor at Seton Hall University School of Law, one of the few Hispanic law professors in the country.

Finally, we are proud to announce that we are awarding scholarships to 12 stellar law students for a grand total of \$30,000. This is the highest amount we have ever awarded in our 30-year history. Your contributions and generosity made this possible. Indeed, this is truly a special evening.

Against the beautiful New York City skyline at the Hyatt Hotel in Jersey City, we welcome you to join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our honorees and raise our glasses to toast the next generation of Hispanic legal talent. Together, we have accomplished great things and together, we will continue ascending to new heights.

Buenas noches,

Miguel Alexander Pozo

30th President, Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey

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OUR MISSION

The purpose of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey is to serve the public interest by cultivating the art and science of jurisprudence, by promoting reform in the law, by facilitating the administration of justice, by fostering respect of the law among Hispanics, by advancing the standing of the legal profession, by preserving high standards of integrity, honor and professional courtesy among Hispanic lawyers, by establishing a close relationship among Hispanic lawyers and by cooperating with other Hispanic bar organizations, with other legal organizations and with other Hispanic community, business, civic, charitable and cultural organizations in furtherance of the aforementioned purposes.



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
P.O. BOX 001
TRENTON
08625
(609) 292-6000



CHRIS CHRISTIE
GOVERNOR

May 1, 2010

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to recognize the members of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey and everyone attending the 29th Annual Scholarship Gala and Awards Dinner. For 30 years, the HBA-NJ has been at the forefront of efforts to diversify the legal profession and has provided a voice for the Hispanic community.

I commend President Miguel Alexander Pozo and the Board of Trustees for encouraging students to make their dreams a reality by awarding merit scholarships to Hispanic law students from area law schools. Your organization has been an incredible source of support for a vast number of Hispanic law students and professionals and I commend you for your efforts.

I am proud to be Governor of one of the most diverse states in the Nation. New Jersey's thriving Hispanic community contributes significantly to our State's prosperity and vibrant cultural diversity. I am certain that the HBA-NJ will continue to promote the enhancement and prosperity of not only Hispanics within the legal profession but all communities throughout New Jersey.

Best wishes for a most memorable and enjoyable ceremony.

Sincerely,



Chris Christie
Governor



SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ
UNITED STATES SENATE
NEW JERSEY



May 1, 2010

Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey
c/o Miguel Alexander Pozo
Lowenstein Sandler PC
65 Livingston Avenue
Roseland, New Jersey 07068

Dear Friends,

Please accept my warmest wishes as you gather for the 29th Annual Scholarship Gala and Awards Dinner of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey (HBA-NJ). I am honored to join you as you celebrate the many accomplishments of your rising stars and honored guests.

For the past 30 years, HBA-NJ has played an integral role in the legal community through its support of Hispanic law students, lawyers, and other legal professionals. It remains deeply committed to the mission of providing mentoring and scholarships to ensure that the next generation of Hispanic lawyers has the opportunities to pursue their goals of a legal career.

This year's event theme of "Dare to Dream" is particularly special as HBA-NJ awards merit scholarships to Hispanic law students from our state. I extend my personal congratulations to each of the scholarship recipients for their accomplishments, and I wish them all the best in their studies and future endeavors.

I would also like to extend my greetings to the honorees and award recipients for their many contributions to our communities. I commend each of them for their continued support of HBA-NJ and its initiatives.

As your United States Senator, I am committed to improving the lives of all New Jerseyans. Please accept my best wishes for a memorable and successful event.

Sincerely,


ROBERT MENENDEZ
United States Senator

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(In Memoriam)

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PROGRAM

THE HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY 29TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GALA AND AWARDS DINNER

Saturday, May 1, 2010
Hyatt Regency Jersey City

- 6:00PM - Cocktail Reception in Manhattan Ballroom
- 7:30PM - Adjourn to the Hudson Ballroom
- Welcome
 - Dinner
 - Remarks by HBA-NJ President, Miguel A. Pozo
 - Presentation of "In re: The Hispanic Bar Association of NJ" Video
 - Unveiling of the "Margarita Echevarria Trailblazer Award"
 - Award and Scholarship Presentations
- 9:00PM - Dessert
- Announcement of Silent Auction Winners
 - Dancing

HONOREES

Honorable Wilda Diaz

Mayor, City of Perth Amboy

Professor Solangel Maldonado

Seton Hall University School of Law

Honorable Camelia Valdes

Passaic County Prosecutor

WITH A SPECIAL AWARD TO

Susan L. Blount, Esq. and John D. Rosero, Esq.

Prudential Financial

Recipient of the 1st Annual Corporate Law Department of the Year Award

AND SCHOLARSHIPS TO

Andres Acebo - Rutgers Newark

Elsie Gonzalez - Seton Hall

Miriam Acevedo - Rutgers Newark

Tannia Munoz - Rutgers Camden

Jonathan Barrera - Seton Hall

Jacqueline Pena - Seton Hall

Veronica Cardenas - NY Law School

Suehail M. Perez - Rutgers Camden

Javier Cubano - Rutgers Camden

Candy L. Velazquez - CUNY School of Law

Jorge Estrada - Rutgers Newark

Ana Yngelmo - Seton Hall

HONOREES

Mayor Wilda Diaz



Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz was sworn in on July 1, 2008, becoming the first woman to hold that office. Prior to taking office, Mayor Diaz spent 20 years in the banking industry where she started as a teller at a local bank after graduating from Perth Amboy High School in 1983. She quickly rose through the ranks and was an assistant vice president with Banco Popular when she won the seat in May 2008. Prior to taking office, she resigned from her position.

A dedicated community activist, Mayor Diaz chaired the Board of Trustees for the Jewish Renaissance Foundation Medical Center, a nonprofit group that provides health care to underserved communities. She was a driving force behind the Puerto Rican Patriotic Cultural Committee (Comité Cultural Patriótico Puertorriqueño de Perth Amboy), which sponsors the annual Hall Avenue Puerto Rican festival. She also served as a member of the Perth Amboy Merchants Association (PAMA), and was honored as "Businesswoman of the Year" by local organizations such as the Puerto Rican Association for Human Development (PRAHD), PAMA & the Jewish Renaissance Foundation. Mayor Diaz, who was born and raised in Perth Amboy, and her husband Greg have two children, Gregory and Samantha.

Professor Solangel Maldonado



Professor Solangel Maldonado's research focuses on the law's regulation of children's relationships with parental figures. She has written several articles examining the law's responsibility for paternal disengagement and inter-parental hostility after divorce and is currently exploring whether the law can facilitate forgiveness between divorcing parents and children. Her work also examines the legal and social implications of transracial and transcultural adoptions.

Prior to joining the Seton Hall faculty, Professor Maldonado was a litigation associate with Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler, LLP and with Sidley, Austin, Brown & Wood in New York. She was also a law clerk for the Honorable Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr., United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. She received her B.A. from Columbia College and her J.D. from Columbia Law School, where she was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and the Managing Editor of the *Columbia Journal of Gender and Law*. Professor Maldonado is a member of the Hispanic National Bar Association and, in that capacity, she and five other law professors drafted a comprehensive report on the jurisprudence of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor in connection with her nomination and confirmation to the U.S. Supreme Court. Professor Maldonado came to Seton Hall in 2001 and was awarded a Dean's Fellowship in 2006. She was named the Joseph M. Lynch Research Fellow in 2007.

Honorable Camelia M. Valdes



Camelia M. Valdes is the first Latina county prosecutor in the State of New Jersey, the first woman prosecutor in Passaic County, and the first lead prosecutor of Dominican ancestry in the United States. Ms. Valdes has dedicated her professional career to government service. She served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Newark Office of the United States Attorney's Office where, during the course of her tenure, she served in the Government Frauds, Terrorism, and Violent Crimes Units. Prior to joining the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey, Ms. Valdes served as an Assistant Counsel in the Governor's Counsel's Office under Governor Christine Todd Whitman and Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco.

Ms. Valdes is active in community service and development. She is a Past President of the Hispanic Bar Association, a former trustee of the New Jersey State Bar and the Rutgers Law School Alumni Advisory Board. Born to proud Dominican parents in the Bronx, New York and raised in Newark, New Jersey, Ms. Valdes is a product of the Newark Public Schools. She received her undergraduate degree in sociology and criminal justice from Seton Hall University in 1993. She graduated from Rutgers Law School in 1996 and received her LL.M. in Trial Advocacy from Temple University in May 2001.

1st ANNUAL CORPORATE LAW DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

For thirty years now, the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey ("HBA-NJ") has been at the forefront of diversifying the legal profession, advocating for the Hispanic community, and creating opportunities for Hispanic law students, lawyers, judges, and legal professionals.

Our high goals, and indeed our many successes in our endeavors, would not be possible without the support of our many corporate and law firm sponsors. These sponsors have committed themselves to creating opportunities for women and minorities, and to diversifying the legal profession through financial support, job creation, and opportunities for training and promotion.

The HBA-NJ is proud to announce the creation of the HBA-NJ's Annual "Corporate Law Department of the Year" Award to honor those institutions that have demonstrated a remarkable commitment in their partnership with our organization. By their consistency of purpose, and for always looking for ways to deepen the relationship with the HBA-NJ, recipients of this award have embodied the highest ideals of our legal community and have demonstrated a relentless commitment to excellence and diversity in our profession.

At the 29th Annual Scholarship Gala on May 1, 2010, the HBA-NJ will award its First Annual "Corporate Law Department of the Year" Award to the Prudential Financial Law Department. Prudential deserves this Award for numerous reasons. As a staple and visible institution throughout New Jersey, Prudential has distinguished itself as a model corporate citizen. They have truly made a significant difference through their multi-faceted support to our organization's key initiatives, including its contribution to the strategic planning for the organization, active participation in the association's events and mentoring program for its young attorneys and law students, and for its leadership in the development of a high-quality continuing legal education program.

We are proud to recognize Susan L. Blount, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Prudential Financial, for her dynamic leadership and sustained commitment to diversity in the legal profession. During her tenure as General Counsel, the Prudential Law Department has dedicated significant resources to support and enhance its relationship with the HBA-NJ, including, among other things, recruiting a talented and diverse workforce from our organization. Ms. Blount also served as the keynote speaker at the HBA-NJ's inaugural Corporate Counsel Roundtable Series ("Roundtable Series"). She delivered an inspirational address that set the tone for the Roundtable Series and set the stage for the Roundtable Series' current prominence.

Also, Prudential was instrumental in establishing the Roundtable Series. This event, which is now entering its fourth year, has become a marquis signature program of the HBA-NJ held annually at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, New Jersey. Miguel A. Pozo, Partner, Lowenstein Sandler PC, spearheaded the creation of the Roundtable Series along with the HBA-NJ Board of Trustees, former HBA-NJ President Ivette Alvarez Ramos, and John D. Rosero, Vice President and Corporate Counsel at Prudential. The purpose of the Roundtable Series is to educate attorneys and business executives regarding a wide range of cutting-edge legal and corporate topics that are presented by top in-house and law firm lawyers.

The HBA-NJ is especially proud of the efforts of long-time member John Rosero for his service and commitment. He has been a thought leader in the HBA-NJ's strategic planning and its development of our continuing legal education program. In addition, he serves a mentor to our young attorneys and law students. We are grateful for Mr. Rosero's tireless efforts and Prudential's unwavering commitment to the HBA-NJ. For its commitment in supporting the HBA-NJ and to promoting excellence in the legal profession, the Prudential Law Department has earned our First Annual Corporate Law Department of the Year Award.

Susan L. Blount, Esq.



Susan L. Blount is Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Prudential Financial, Inc. and is responsible for overseeing the company's law, compliance and business ethics organizations. Blount joined Prudential's Law Department in 1985 as an attorney in the company's commercial real estate operations. During her career at Prudential, Blount has held a variety of leadership positions including Vice President and Secretary for the Company through the period of Prudential's demutualization in late 2001. Most recently, Blount served as Vice President and Chief Investment Counsel, overseeing the Investment Division legal teams. Prior to joining Prudential, Blount was an associate at the law firm of Kirkland & Ellis.

Blount is a member of the Board of Trustees of Montclair State University and a member of the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education. She serves on the Board of Directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for Legal Reform. Blount was recently appointed as Chair of the Committee of Corporate General Counsel of the ABA's Section of Business Law. Blount attended the University of Chicago. She graduated from The University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. in history and a J.D., with honors.

John D. Rosero, Esq.



John D. Rosero is a Vice President and Corporate Counsel for The Prudential Insurance Company of America. He is responsible for insurance, securities, and litigation matters for Prudential and its affiliated broker-dealer, Pruca Securities. Previously, he served as Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer for Prudential's Group Insurance business unit.

Prior to joining Prudential, John was Chief of the Civil Litigation Section and Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Newark's Office of the Corporation Counsel. As a supervising trial attorney, he managed and handled litigation matters in federal and state courts, including jury trials and appeals. He previously served as a Judicial Law Clerk for the New Jersey Superior Court, Essex County. In addition, he taught courses on corporate law, government regulation, and international business at the Rutgers Business School in Newark, New Jersey. John earned his Ph.D. in Global Affairs from Rutgers, State University of New Jersey, LL.M. in Corporation Law from New York University School of Law, and his J.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law.

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Miguel Alexander Pozo, Esq.

President

Miguel Alexander Pozo, Esq., is a litigation partner at Lowenstein Sandler PC, one of New Jersey's largest and most prestigious law firms. A home-grown partner, Miguel has spent the last ten years at Lowenstein representing *Fortune* 500 corporations, businesses, and non-profit organizations in a broad range of federal and state court litigation matters, including contract disputes, employment litigation on behalf of management, and consumer fraud class actions. His representative clients include LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, TAG Heuer, The Juilliard School, MTV Networks, Christian Dior, Liz Claiborne, Inc., and LinkShare Corporation, among others.

In 2010, Miguel was named a "Super Lawyer" by *New Jersey Super Lawyers* magazine for his experience in business litigation. In 2009, Miguel was recognized as one of New Jersey's top "40 Under 40" lawyers by the *New Jersey Law Journal* and was also named to the *NJBiz* "Forty Under 40" list honoring individuals who exhibit "excellence in business, commitment to community and professional achievement." Both awards recognize an elite group of the State's leading professionals. He was also named to *DTM* magazine's 2009 Latino Trendsetters list, which includes Latin music legend Willie Colon, author/activist/baseball wife Laura Posada, and Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., among others.

In 2007, he was named a "Rising Star" by *New Jersey Super Lawyers* magazine for his business litigation experience, an award that recognizes the state's top 2.5 percent of lawyers under the age of 40. Additionally, in 2005, Miguel was featured in the *New Jersey Law Journal*'s "50 Leading Women and Minority Attorneys" in the State of New Jersey. Committed to diversity in the legal profession, Miguel is also Editor-in-Chief of DiversityisNatural.com, a Web site and initiative of Lowenstein Sandler dedicated to fostering the advancement of women and minorities in the legal profession.

A first-generation college graduate, he received degrees from Rutgers School of Law-Newark and Hofstra University. Prior to joining Lowenstein, Miguel served as a judicial clerk to the Hon. Lawrence M. Lawson, Assignment Judge, Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Monmouth County. While in law school, Miguel served as an intern to the Hon. Harold A. Ackerman, Senior Judge, United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. He is currently the Regional President (Region III) for the Hispanic National Bar Association. He is also active in the community, from his longtime membership in the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., to his service on several boards, including the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Newark. His community service and *pro bono* efforts have garnered awards from *Essence* magazine, the Boys Scouts of America, Rutgers School of Law - Newark, and the Sponsors for Educational (SEO) Program, among others.



Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq. **President Elect**

Suzette T. Rodriguez, Esq., is an associate at LeClairRyan in Newark, New Jersey, where she is a member of the Labor and Employment Group. Suzette litigates discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims in federal and state courts and before various administrative agencies. Suzette received her B.A. from Hunter College and her J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. Prior to joining LeClairRyan, Suzette was an associate at Wong Fleming, P.C., in Princeton, New Jersey. Suzette served as a law clerk for the Hon. Travis L. Francis of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, and as a judicial extern for the Hon. Marina Corodemus, Superior Court of New Jersey, Civil Division-Mass Torts. Suzette is currently the Deputy Regional President (Region III) for the Hispanic National Bar Association and serves on the Advisory Board of the New Jersey Legal Education Empowerment Project (NJ LEEP). Suzette is a member of both the New York and New Jersey State Bar Associations.



Jose I. Bastarrika, Esq. **Vice President**

Jose I. Bastarrika, Esq., is a partner at the firm of Bastarrika, Guzman, Soto & Gonzalez, LLP in Paterson and Hackensack, New Jersey. Specializing in the area of family law, Jose has been a court-appointed expert and guardian ad litem in complex child custody, child abuse and neglect actions. Jose received his B.A. from Rutgers University and his J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. Prior to starting his own practice, Jose served as a law clerk to the Hon. Nestor F. Guzman, Sr., Superior Court of New Jersey, Family Division. Jose was selected by the New Jersey Supreme Court to serve as Section Chair of the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee and is a member of the New Jersey State Bar and Passaic County Bar. Jose has appeared as a legal commentator on Court TV (Banfield & Ford Show) and Univision (41 A Tu Lado).



Alan B. Cardenas, Esq. **Treasurer**

Alan B. Cardenas, Esq., is corporate in-house counsel for Siemens Corporation, where he is responsible for coordinating all U.S. legal and regulatory activities for all Siemens companies throughout the world. Prior to joining Siemens, Alan worked in the corporate departments of Debevoise & Plimpton LLP in New York, New York and Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP in Princeton, New Jersey, where he represented *Fortune 100* companies and various other public and private businesses in a broad range of corporate transactions. Alan received his B.A. from Rutgers University and his J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. During law school, Alan served as a judicial intern to the Hon. Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr., of the United States District Court, District of New Jersey. Alan is a member of the Hispanic National Bar Association and the Association of Corporate Counsel.



Louis Acevedo, Esq. **Recording Secretary**

Louis Acevedo, Esq., has been the Deputy Public Defender in charge of the Bergen County Trial Regional Office since 1993, and is the first Latino in the history of the New Jersey Public Defender's Office to occupy that position. Prior to serving in that position, Louis was appointed the First Assistant Deputy Public Defender in the Passaic County Trial Region of the Office of the Public Defender and worked in the New York City Police Department's Advocate Office. Louis received his B.A. from John Jay College of Criminal Justice and his J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law. Prior to starting his legal career, Louis served in the United States Army. Louis is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association, the Bergen County Bar Association, the Bergen County Speedy Trial Committee, the Bergen County Children in Court Advisory Committee and the Bergen County Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative Steering Committee. Louis served on the New Jersey Supreme Court Criminal Practice Committee during its 1994-1996 term.



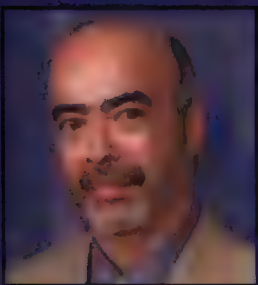
Edward J. Mullins III, Esq. **Membership Secretary**

Edward J. Mullins III, Esq., is a litigation associate with Reed Smith LLP in Princeton, New Jersey, where he focuses his practice on aviation litigation, general products liability and general negligence cases in state and federal courts throughout the country. Ed received his B.A. from Boston College and his J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. While in law school, Ed served as a judicial intern for the Hon. William G. Bassler and for the Hon. Ronald J. Hedges, both of the United States District Court, District of New Jersey. Prior to joining Reed Smith, Ed was a litigation associate with Kaye Scholer LLP. Ed is admitted to practice in New Jersey and New York and is also a member of the Hispanic National Bar Association, the American Bar Association - Aviation Litigation Committee, and the New York State Bar Association.



Nuris E. Portuondo, Esq. **Press Secretary**

Nuris E. Portuondo, Esq., is a partner in the Morristown office of Schwartz Simon Edelstein Celso & Zitomer, LLC, where she focuses her litigation practice in the areas of construction, employment, complex commercial, and insurance law. With over ten years of litigation experience, Nuris oversees the firm's Construction Litigation Group and has experience handling complex construction litigation including construction defect claims, professional negligence claims, as well as personal injury cases arising out of construction accidents. She also has extensive experience representing management and frequently counsels clients on employment issues. Prior to joining the firm, Nuris served as a judicial clerk for the Hon. Hector E. DeSoto and Hon. Richard C. Camp, Superior Court of New Jersey, Essex County. A leader in the community, Nuris has served on several boards including the Board of Trustees for the United Way of Summit. She is a longtime member of the New Jersey State Bar Association, the Hispanic National Bar Association, and the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey. Nuris received her B.A. from Purdue University and her J.D. from Hofstra University School of Law.



Juan Cartagena, Esq. **General Counsel**

Juan Cartagena, Esq., is General Counsel and Vice President for Advocacy to the Community Service Society, where, as a civil rights and constitutional law attorney, he represents poor, underserved communities in New York and New Jersey primarily. Juan has litigated voting rights cases on behalf of Latinos in the state and has been active in community mobilization efforts within New Jersey's Latino community, including Puerto Rican cultural preservation efforts. A former Municipal Court Judge in Hoboken, Juan lectures at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. Juan received his B.A. from Dartmouth College and his J.D. from Columbia Law School. At the urging of the HBA-NJ, Juan was appointed to the New Jersey Governor's Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy in 2007. A resident of Jersey City, Juan has written extensively on voting rights, constitutional law, criminal justice, and language rights issues.



Evelyn Padin, Esq. **Trustee -- Hudson County**

Evelyn Padin, Esq., is a solo practitioner at the Law Office of Evelyn Padin in Jersey City, New Jersey, where she devotes her practice to personal injury, matrimonial, and administrative law, criminal defense and municipal court litigation. A former Municipal Court Judge in Jersey City, Evelyn earned her B.A. from Rutgers University, her M.S.W. from Fordham University, and her J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law. Prior to opening her own practice, Evelyn was an associate at Linares & Coviello in Bloomfield, New Jersey, where she represented clients in personal injury and criminal defense litigation.



Elvin Esteves, Esq. **Trustee -- Essex County**

Elvin Esteves, Esq., is counsel at the firm of Gibbons, P.C., in Newark, New Jersey, where he concentrates his practice principally in complex commercial litigation concerning contract disputes and business torts. Elvin litigates non-compete, non-solicitation and confidentiality covenants, and counsels clients in resolving restrictive covenant disputes without litigation where possible. Elvin received his B.A. from Rutgers University and his J.D. from Columbia Law School. Elvin is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association, Federal Bar Association of New Jersey, Essex County Bar Association, and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. Elvin is active in various Newark civic organizations and causes.



Jaclyn Medina, Esq. **Trustee -- Bergen County**

Jaclyn Medina, Esq., is a Staff Attorney in the Adult Criminal Trial Section of The Office of the Public Defender for the State of New Jersey. Jaclyn also serves as an adjunct professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate students as well as diplomats from various consulates and missions to the United Nations. Jaclyn received her B.A. from the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University and her J.D. from Rutgers Law School-Camden, where she earned the Chief Justice Richard J. Hughes Award for Excellence in Lawyering. During law school, Jaclyn served as President of Alianza for two consecutive years, as well as the Vice-President of Committees for the Hispanic National Bar Association Law Student Division. Prior to joining the Office of the Public Defender, Jaclyn served as a law clerk to the Hon. Lois Lipton of the Superior Court, Law Division. Prior to pursuing her legal education, Jaclyn worked with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).



J. Andres Mayor, Esq. **Trustee -- Morris, Sussex & Warren Counties**

J. Andres Mayor, Esq., is an associate at Day Pitney, LLP in Florham Park, New Jersey, where he practices in the areas of real estate litigation and shareholder and securities litigation. Andres received his B.A. from Rutgers University and his J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. During law school, Andres served as Articles Editor for the *Rutgers Law Review*. Prior to joining Day Pitney, Andres served as a law clerk to the Hon. Roberto A. Rivera-Soto, Associate Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court. Andres is a member of the Hispanic National Bar Association and the New Jersey State Bar Association.



Melinda Colón, Esq. **Trustee -- Union County**

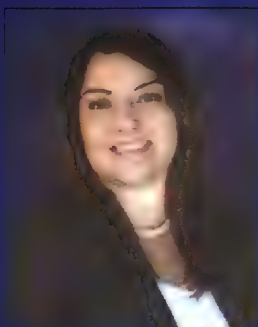
Melinda Colón, Esq., is the law clerk for the Hon. Michael A. Shipp, U.S.M.J., of the United States District Court, District of New Jersey. Prior to her clerkship, Melinda was an associate at the law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., as a member of the Redevelopment Team, Redevelopment Strategic Business Unit Team, and the Commercial Real Estate Team. Melinda received her B.A. from Union College and her J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. While attending law school, Melinda was the Senior Articles Editor for the *Rutgers Law Review*, President of the Association of Latin American Law Students, Class Representative on the Student Bar Association, a student attorney for the Rutgers Community Law Clinic, and Co-Chair of the Student Affairs Committee for the Minority Student Program. Prior to law school, Melinda worked for two years as a *pro bono* legal assistant at Shearman & Sterling, LLP in New York City, assisting families who tragically lost loved ones in the September 11 attacks, domestic violence victims and political asylees.



Jose Rivera-Benitez, Esq.

Trustee -- Mercer, Somerset, & Hunterdon Counties

Jose Rivera-Benitez, Esq., is Assistant Deputy Public Advocate, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel, where he represents the public interest on public utility matters before state and federal regulatory agencies. Prior to joining the Public Advocate's Office, Jose was Assistant Counsel for the Office of the Governor's Counsel, where he served as a legal liaison between the Governor, Cabinet members, and the Legislature. Jose received his B.A. from Columbia University and his J.D. from Seton Hall Law School. Jose is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association: Consumer Protection and Media Law Special Committees, the Union County Superior Court Vicinage Committee on Minority Concerns, and the Board of Directors of Family & Children's Services of Elizabeth, Inc.



Julia A. López, Esq.

Trustee -- Middlesex County

Julia A. López, Esq., is an associate at Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer P.A. in Woodbridge, New Jersey, where she is a member of the Mass Tort Class Action Litigation Team. Julia focuses her practice on matters involving class actions, toxic and environmental injuries, and healthcare. Julia received her B.S.B.A. from Georgetown University and her J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. Upon graduation, Julia served as a law clerk for the Hon. John E. Wallace, Jr., Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. While attending law school, Julia served as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Rutgers Law Review*, President of the Association of Latin American Law Students, and as a judicial intern for the Hon. James R. Zazzali, Retired Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. Julia is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association, Middlesex County Bar Association, New Jersey Association for Justice (formerly ATLA-NJ), National Association of Shareholder and Consumer Attorneys, American Bar Association, and the Hispanic National Bar Association. Julia was appointed by Allen A. Etish of the New Jersey State Bar Association to the Diversity Committee.



Jackeline Biddle Shuler, Esq.

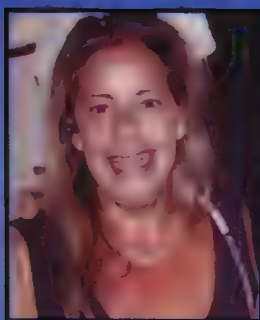
Trustee -- Monmouth & Ocean Counties

Jackeline Biddle Shuler, Esq., is a solo practitioner at the Law Firm of Jackeline B. Shuler in Long Branch, New Jersey, where she focuses on civil and criminal litigation as well as representation of nurses in professional disciplinary actions and employment related matters. Jackeline received her B.S. from Monmouth University and her J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. While in law school, Jackeline was a Research Editor for the *Woman's Rights Law Reporter*, Class Representative of the Student Bar Association, and a judicial intern to the Hon. Robert W. O'Hagan, J.S.C. in Freehold, New Jersey. Prior to starting her own practice, Jackeline was a medical malpractice associate at Lynch Martin. Jackeline is a member of the American Association of Nurse Attorneys (TAANA), the New Jersey State Bar Association, the Monmouth County Bar Association, and the Association of Black Women Lawyers. Jackeline is presently an ICU Staff Nurse at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.



Carlos M. Bollar, Esq.
**Trustee -- Camden, Burlington, &
Gloucester Counties**

Carlos M. Bollar, Esq., is a partner at the firm of Archer & Greiner, P.C., in Haddonfield, New Jersey, where he is a member of the Environmental Litigation Group. Carlos has had substantial experience in litigating complex civil, environmental, toxic tort and product liability cases. Carlos has served as lead counsel in numerous leaking tank/surface spill contamination cases throughout the Northeast. Carlos is also a frequent lecturer on a wide range of environmental issues. Carlos received his B.A. from Rutgers University and his J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Camden. Carlos served as a law clerk for the Hon. William J. Cook, Camden County Superior Court.



Carmen Mendiola, Esq.
Trustee at Large

Carmen Mendiola, Esq., was born in Cuba and immigrated to the United States at age 9. She went on to receive B.A. from Jersey City University and obtained her J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law. After graduation she clerked for the Honorable Kenneth MacKenzie, Superior Court of New Jersey, Morris County, Chancery Division. She also worked as an Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Jersey City for over 10 years where she specialized in Bankruptcy litigation. She currently has her own private practice in Jersey City where she specializes in Ch. 7 & 13 Bankruptcy, Immigration and Workman's Compensation law. In 1994, the Governor of New Jersey appointed her to serve as a board member to the Cuban Task Force where she continues to be an active member. Carmen currently serves as Vice-President to the WAARFA organization (Women Acknowledged and Recognized for their Achievements). She is also the co-owner of a restaurant named Hard Grove Café located in Jersey City, New Jersey.



Michael J. Plata, Esq.
Trustee at Large

Michael J. Plata, Esq., is an associate at LeClairRyan in Newark, New Jersey, where he focuses his practice in environmental, hazardous waste, complex commercial and employment litigation. Prior to joining LeClairRyan, Michael worked as an associate at Lum, Danzis, Drasco & Positan, LLC. Michael received his B.S. in Political Science and Criminology from Florida State University and his J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. Michael served as a law clerk to the Hon. Ariel Rodriguez of the Appellate Division and the Hon. John E. Wallace, Jr., Associate Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court. Michael is a member of the American Bar Association, New Jersey State Bar Association, and Essex County Bar Association.



Anna Maria Tejada, Esq.

Trustee at Large

Anna Maria Tejada, Esq., is an associate at Kaufman, Dolowich, Voluck & Gonzo LLP in Hackensack, New Jersey, where she concentrates in the areas of Employment Practices Liability, Labor and Employment Law on behalf of management, Directors and Officers Liability, Professional Liability, and Education Law. Prior to joining KDVG, Anna practiced at Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., where she focused her practice on representing school boards and provided legal advice on labor, employment, and general education-related matters. Anna also handled labor negotiations from the initial stages through completion. She has extensive experience representing school board clients as well as parents in special education matters. Anna received her B.A. from Rutgers University and her J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. During law school, Anna served as a judicial intern to the Hon. John W. Bissell, U.S.D.J., as well as a legal intern for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.



Masiel Valentin, Esq.

Executive Assistant

Masiel Valentin, Esq., obtained her Juris Doctor from Seton Hall University School of Law and also obtained a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Puerto Rico. She went on to work as a law clerk for Hon. Stephen J. Bernstein, Judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey. After her clerkship, she entered private practice with the law firm of the Hon. Carlos M. Gonzalez, Councilman-at-Large for the City of Newark. She founded her own firm in 2008 where she specializes in Immigration and Nationality Law, as well as helping immigrants realize the American dream of purchasing a home of business and establishing new enterprises. She also occupies the position of Director of Legal Services for one of the few New Jersey BIA Certified Non-Profit Organizations authorized to provide low cost legal services to immigrants. She now joins the HBA-NJ as Executive Assistant to the President. Her role within the organization will be to help implement the infrastructure necessary for our organization to continue to grow and meet the needs of its members and the Hispanic community at large.



George Rios, Esq.

Immediate Past President

George Rios, Esq., has been practicing law in the State of New Jersey for 25 years. After graduation, he clerked for the Office of Administrative Law. Since 1988, George has had his own firm practicing tort litigation in Jersey City, New Jersey. He represents injury victims and families in personal injury, wrongful death, worker's compensation, and motor vehicle accidents. A longtime member of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, he served as a trustee from 2002-2003 and served on its executive board in various capacities from 2003 until to his ascension to the presidency in 2008. George is also very active in other organizations. He has served on the Board of Governors for the National Hispanic Bar Association, as well as the Board of Governors for New Jersey Association of Trial Lawyers. He is an active member of the New Jersey State Bar Association, having served on its Ad Hoc Committee for Continuing Legal Education and Pipeline Taskforce Committee. He currently serves on its Planning Committee and is the co-chair of its Diversity Committee. Mr. Rios also serves as a trustee for the Hudson County Bar Association. George received his B.A. from Cornell University and his J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law.

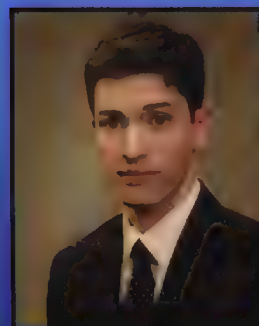


Daniel Guadalupe, Esq.
JPAC Chair

Daniel R. Guadalupe, Esq. is an equity member of Norris, McLaughlin & Marcus. He is a commercial attorney and litigator focusing on business disputes, medical device companies, construction and arbitrations. Dan received his B.A. from Columbia College and his J.D. from University of Pennsylvania Law School. He is a former President of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, a former General Counsel of the Hispanic National Bar Association, and the co-founder and immediate past President of PRIMER, an exclusive national network of 75 Fortune 500 executives, business owners and professionals. Dan is also an American Arbitration Association arbitrator and has served as legal commentator for MSNBC and Telemundo. He chairs the Hispanic Bar of New Jersey's Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee and is a member of the New Jersey Supreme Court's Disciplinary Oversight Committee.



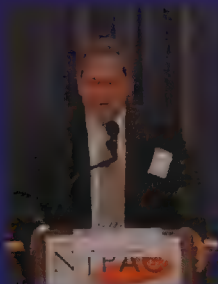
Javier Cubano Velez
Student Rep. -- Rutgers-Camden



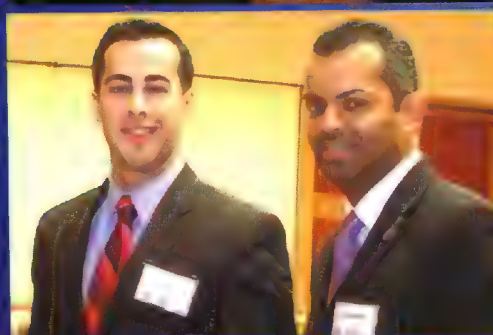
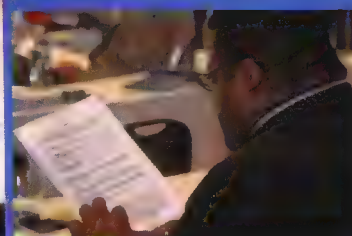
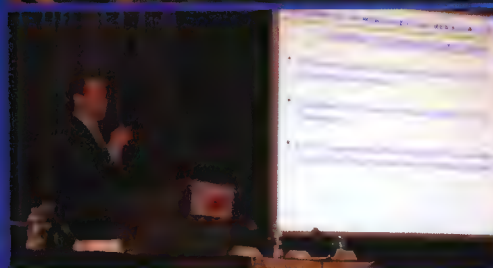
Andres Acebo
Student Rep. -- Rutgers-Newark



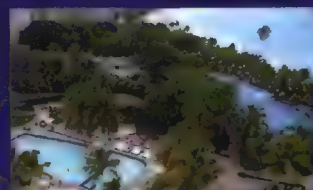
Cristal Reyes
Student Rep. -- Seton Hall



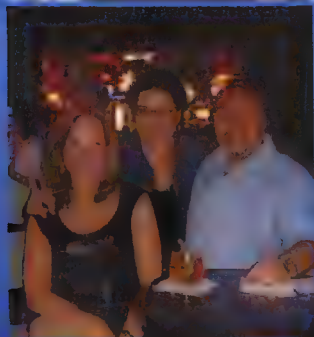
2008 CORPORATE COUNSEL ROUNDTABLE SERIES



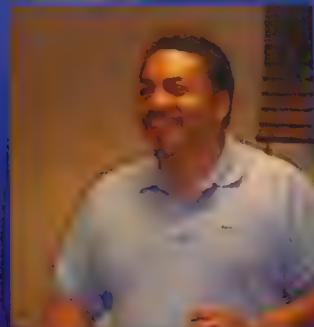
The HBA-NJ held its 2nd Annual Corporate Counsel Roundtable Series at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, New Jersey on November 18, 2008. The event featured distinguished panelists discussing developments in corporate internal investigations and intellectual property law.



2009 SUN, SURF, AND SEMINARS CONFERENCE



The HBA-NJ held its annual Sun, Surf, and Seminars retreat at the El San Juan Hotel & Casino in San Juan, Puerto Rico on April 15-19, 2009.



The retreat featured seminars covering developments in family law, immigration law, worker's compensation and third-party recovery, and perspectives from the judiciary.

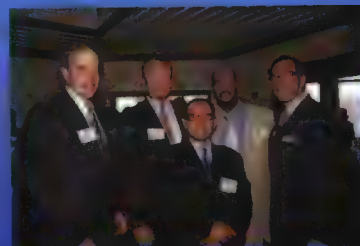




2009 DIVERSE SUMMER ASSOCIATE MIXER



The HBA-NJ held its annual Diverse Summer Associate Mixer at the Chart House in Weehawken, New Jersey on July 16, 2009. Set against the beautiful Manhattan skyline, the mixer provided an amazing opportunity for judges, attorneys, and law students to network and dance the night away.





2009 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS GALA AND DINNER



The HBA-NJ held its 28th Annual Scholarship Awards Gala and Dinner at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick, New Jersey on May 30, 2009.

In addition to providing scholarships to law students, the organization honored New Jersey State Senator Teresa Ruiz and other distinguished guests for their success, support, and contributions to the Hispanic community.





YLD
KICKOFF
PROGRAM
AND
RECEPTION

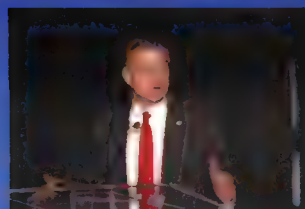


The HBA-NJ kicked off its Young Lawyers Division on September 24, 2009 with a panel discussion at Rutgers Law School in Newark followed by a reception at Paleo Bar & Grill

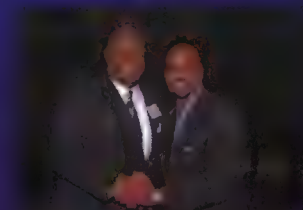




2009
INSTALLATION
AND
SWEARING-IN
CEREMONY



The HBA-NJ held its 30th Annual Installation and Swearing-in Ceremony of the 2009/2010 President, Officers, and Trustees at the W Hotel in Hoboken, New Jersey on October 29, 2009.





2009
CORPORATE
COUNSEL
ROUNDTABLE
SERIES



The HBA-NJ held its 3rd Annual Corporate Counsel Roundtable Series at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, New Jersey on November 17, 2009. The event featured distinguished panelists discussing recent developments in corporate governance, media and entertainment law, and pay-to-play legislation.

**HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY
2009 - 2010 EVENTS CALENDAR**

Thursday, September 24, 2009

HBA-NJ Young Lawyers Division Kickoff Program and Reception
Panel discussion at Rutgers Law School & Reception at Palela Bar & Grill in Newark

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Joint "Pathways to the State Judiciary" panel discussion
(co-sponsored by HBANJ, GSBA, APALA, SABANJ, and ABWL)
at New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick

Thursday, October 29, 2009

30th Annual Installation & Officer Swearing-In Ceremony
at The W Hotel in Hoboken

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

3rd Annual Corporate Roundtable Series
at The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark (Chase Room)

Thursday, December 3, 2009

1st Annual Holiday Mixer/Membership Drive
at LUA in Hoboken

Thursday, January 21, 2010

Annual Wine Tasting Event
at The City Square Grill at NJPAC in Newark

Saturday, February 20, 2010

HBA-NJ Women's Law Conference/Community Law Project
at Seton Hall Law School in Newark

Wednesday, April 14, 2010 - Sunday, April 18, 2010

9th Annual Sun, Surf, & Seminars Conference
at Driadra Resort & Spa La Romana in the Dominican Republic

Saturday, May 1, 2010

29th Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner and Gala
at Hyatt Regency in Jersey City

Thursday, July 15, 2010

1th Annual Summer Mixer
at The Chart House in Weehawken

Thursday, August 19, 2010

Southern Membership Mixer
Casona Restaurant in Collingswood, NJ

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Northern Membership Mixer
Ash Lounge in Bloomfield, NJ

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Joint "Pathways to the Federal Judiciary" panel discussion
(co-sponsored by HBANJ, GSBA, APALA, SABANJ, and ABWL)
at New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick

Thursday, October 28, 2010

31st Annual Installation & Officer Swearing-In Ceremony

For more information, please contact:
Miguel Alexander Pazo
at 973-597-6212 or mpozo@lawenstein.com



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- ✓ Food Stamp Program
- ✓ General Assistance (GA)
- ✓ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- ✓ Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
- ✓ Lifeline Utility Credit/Tenants Lifeline Assistance
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD)
- ✓ Temporary Assistance to Needy Families/
Work First New Jersey (TANF/WF NJ)

OR if you are age 65 or over and are not participating in one of the above programs and your annual income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty income level.



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Congratulates the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey
on their 29th Annual Scholarship Gala and Awards Dinner
and this year's honorees and scholarship recipients.

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- White Collar Criminal Defense, Corporate Internal Investigations & Corporate Ethics



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**We also congratulate this year's
Scholarship Dinner Gala award
recipients and honorees.**

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PROFESSOR SOLANGEL MALDONADO
Seton Hall University School of Law

and all other
HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF NJ HONOREES

Honorable Wilda Diaz
Honorable Camelia Valdes
Susan Blount, Esq.
John Rosero, Esq.



RISING



SETON HALL

LAW

Congratulations

to the

Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey,

to this year's honorees

Honorable Wilda Diaz

Professor Solangel Maldonado

Honorable Camelia Valdes

and to this year's scholarship recipients



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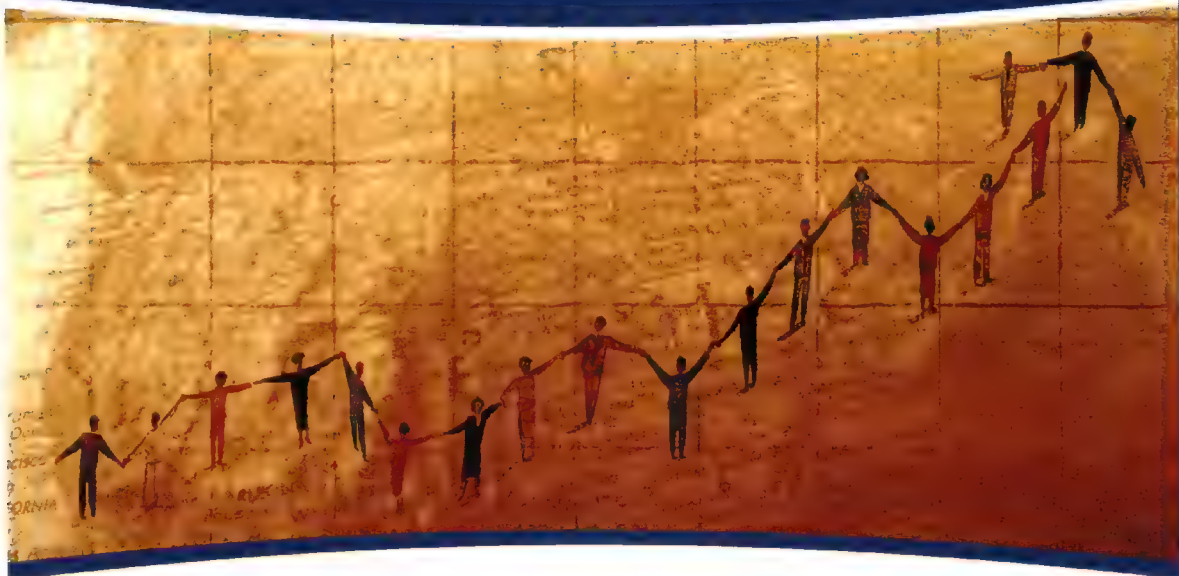
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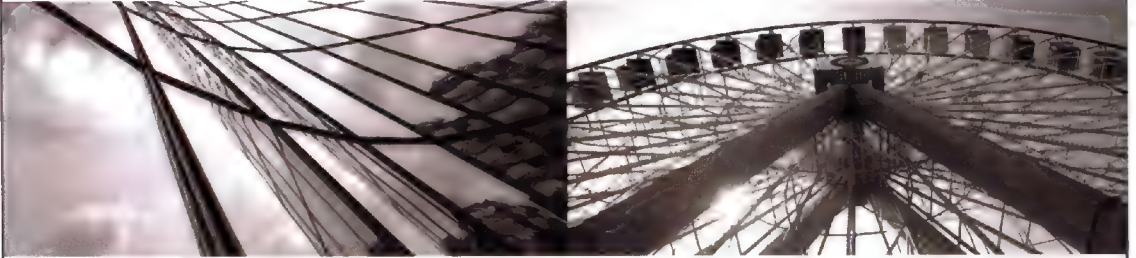
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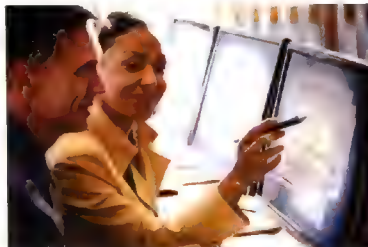
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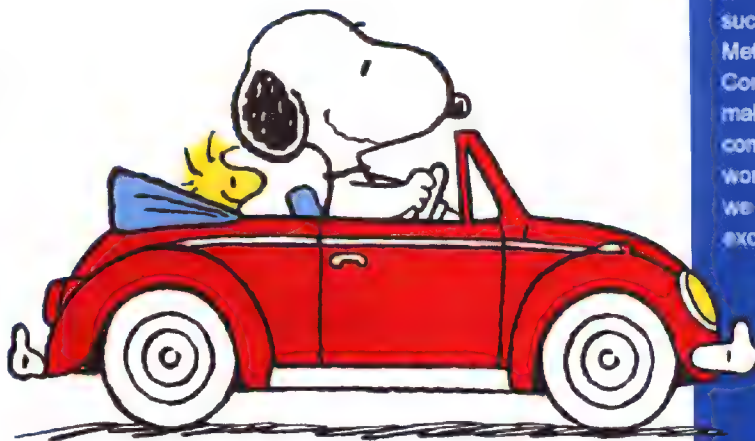
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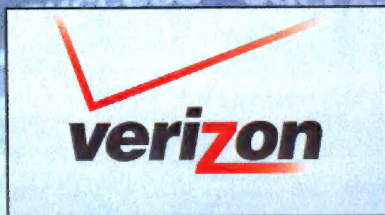


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